

2. (Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the weight proportion of the plasticizing medium comprising a phthalate is at most equal to 200% with respect to the weight of acrylic resin and/or the weight proportion of the intumescent agent is at most equal to 200% with respect to the weight of acrylic resin.

3. (Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plasticizing medium comprises predominantly, by weight, an organic phosphate.

4. (Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 3, wherein the plasticizing medium comprises a phthalate.

5. (Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the plasticizing medium is between 100 and 200% by weight of resin.

6. (Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the intumescent agent is between 50 and 200% by weight of resin.

7. (Twice Amended) A flame-retarded composite yarn comprising a core made of a material of low combustibility and a sheath made of resin, wherein said yarn is capable of being obtained by coating said core with the flame-retarded composition as claimed in claim 1.

8. (Amended) The yarn as claimed in claim 7, wherein the material of the core is a continuous glass filament.

9. (Twice Amended) A composite structure comprising a substrate of low combustibility and at least one layer of resin, wherein said structure is capable of being obtained by coating the substrate with a flame-retarded composition as claimed in claim 1.

14. (Amended) A process for obtaining a yarn comprising a core and a plastic sheath comprising a halogen-free fire-retarded composition, consisting of at least one acrylic resin and an intumescent agent which are dispersed in a plasticizing medium, which process is characterized in that:

a) a die suitable for passage of the core of said yarn is used;

b) the plastic composition is used in the ungelled plastisol state;

c) the core of the yarn is passed through said die, with a peripheral distribution of the plastisol around said core;

d) the rheological properties of the plastisol at the shear rate of the die, at least equal to  $20,000\text{ s}^{-1}$ , are adapted by formulating said ungelled plastisol so that at low shear rate, at most equal to  $400\text{ s}^{-1}$ , it exhibits a Newtownian behaviour, with a viscosity of less than or equal to  $6,000\text{ mPa.s}$ , measured with a Brookfield RVT viscometer at  $20\text{ rpm}$ , and at high shear rate, at least equal to  $10,000\text{ s}^{-1}$ , it exhibits a pseudoplastic behaviour;

e) the gelling of the fire-retarded composition is carried out.

15. (Amended) The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the weight proportion of the plasticizing medium in the plastisol comprising a phthalate is at most equal to 200% with respect to the weight of acrylic resin and/or the weight proportion of the intumescence agent is at most equal to 200% with respect to the weight of acrylic resin.

16. (Amended) The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the plasticizing medium comprises predominantly, by weight, an organic phosphate.

17. (Amended) The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the proportion by weight of the plasticizing medium in the plastisol is between 100 and 200% by weight of resin.

18. (Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein the proportion by weight of the intumescence agent in the plastisol is between 50 and 200% by weight of resin.

19. (Amended) A flame-retarded composite yarn with a sheath made of resin and of low combustibility, wherein it is capable of being obtained by the process as claimed in claim 14.

20. (Amended) The yarn as claimed in claim 19, wherein the material of the core is a continuous glass filament.

**Please add new claims 25-31 as follows:**

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--25. The composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the plasticizing medium is between 120 and 145% by weight of resin.--

--26. The composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the intumescent agent is between 150 and 200% by weight of resin.--

--27. The yarn as claimed in claim 7, wherein said material of low combustibility is a halogen-free material.--

--28. The composite structure as claimed in claim 9, wherein the substrate is a halogen-free substrate.--

--29. The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the proportion by weight of the plasticizing medium in the plastisol is between 120 and 145% by weight of resin.--

--30. The composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein the proportion by weight of the intumescent agent in the plastisol is between 150 and 200% by weight of resin.--

--31. The yarn as claimed in claim 19, wherein said sheath is made of a halogen-free material.--

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